

From: Somers, Elaine
To: ["Winters, Robert NWP"](#)
Subject: FW: Double-crested Cormorant Final EIS - EPA comments (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 6:33:00 PM

Bob,
Just wondering the Corps' response to this suggested approach? Thank you again.

-----Original Message-----

From: Somers, Elaine
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 2:01 PM
To: 'Winters, Robert NWP'
Subject: RE: Double-crested Cormorant Final EIS - EPA comments (UNCLASSIFIED)

Bob,
Thank you so much for your reply. In a conversation with USFWS it was conveyed that egg oiling, a less objectionable form of lethal take, could be applied as well. It would simply take longer to reach target population levels. It seems there is good reason to try this since it would be a more gradual form of take that would allow for effective adaptive management if the western population is unable to rebound, which appears, with all things considered, a real danger. While the 2018 target date would not be achieved with this method, it seems some flexibility could be applied to the timeframe so that such a dramatic population decline could be avoided, as well as the more objectionable take methods. It seems a good compromise that would address the concerns of all parties.
Elaine

-----Original Message-----

From: Winters, Robert NWP [<mailto:Robert.Winters@usace.army.mil>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 1:31 PM
To: Somers, Elaine
Subject: RE: Double-crested Cormorant Final EIS - EPA comments (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Elaine,

We did receive the EPA FEIS comment letter and the decision maker did consider it in making a decision. We chose not to respond specifically to each of the points raised in the EPA letter in Appendix A of the ROD because we determined that these comments had been previously addressed in either the draft or final EIS and did not raise new substantive issues. Many of the comments and recommendations in your letter (i.e., consider alternatives that don't include DCCO management, reconsider non-lethal hazing to promote dispersal to Washington, consider other environmental stressors on the DCCO population, etc.) were raised in comments we received on the DEIS. In Appendix J of the FEIS we included our responses to these comments. As we noted in the Appendix J we did revise the DCCO population model and provided additional rationale on the purpose and need and range of alternatives. Full responses are in the Tables of Appendix J.

Please let me know if you have further questions regarding particular comments or recommendation in your letter,

Bob Winters, PMP
503-808-4738
Project Manager
Portland District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

-----Original Message-----

From: Somers, Elaine [<mailto:somers.elaine@epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 3:13 PM
To: Winters, Robert NWP
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Double-crested Cormorant Final EIS - EPA comments

From: Somers, Elaine
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 3:08 PM
To: 'cormorant-eis@usace.army.mil'
Subject: FW: Double-crested Cormorant Final EIS - EPA comments

To: Mr. Robert Winters, US Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District

Dear Mr. Winters,

In reviewing the ROD for the Cormorant Management Plan we did not see a response to the EPA comments on the Final EIS. We did submit comments by the specified date of March 16. Did you receive the EPA comments? We attach them here as well, and would appreciate knowing the Corps' response.

Thank you so much,

Elaine Somers

US EPA, Region 10

1200-6th Ave., Suite 900, ETPA-202-3

Seattle, WA 98101

206-553-2966

Somers.elaine@epa.gov

From: Somers, Elaine
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 5:06 PM
To: 'cormorant-eis@usace.army.mil'
Subject: Double-crested Cormorant Final EIS - EPA comments

Dear Mr. Winters,

Attached is an electronic version of the EPA comments on the Double-crested Cormorant Management Plan Final EIS. The signed original hard copy is in the mail and should arrive soon. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. We would be grateful to receive notice and/or an electronic or hard copy of the ROD when it becomes available. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,

Elaine Somers

US EPA, Region 10

Seattle, WA 98101

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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE